



State Senator **NANCY CASSIS** *E-NEWS UPDATE*

Amber Alert abuse bill signed into law

I am pleased to announce that my Amber Alert abuse bill has been signed into law. Senate Bill 134 (now Public Act 207) and its companion, SB 74 (PA 205 sponsored by state Sen. Mike Goschka), make it a felony to falsely report an Amber Alert and establish a penalty of up to four years in prison and fines up to \$2,000.

When someone falsely reports an Amber Alert, valuable law enforcement resources are wasted in a fruitless search for a nonexistent crime. Clearly, this is a serious offense and this legislation makes it known that Amber Alerts are not to be misused.

I also sponsored Public Act 712 of 2002, which created Amber Alert of Michigan, a coordinated notification system between national, state and local law enforcement agencies and broadcasters to quickly locate abducted children through radio and television broadcast bulletins.

Amber Alert is an invaluable resource for finding abducted children. This new law ensures that those who abuse it will face strong punishment.

Groveland Township State Police Post stays open

Last week I helped lead the charge to keep the Groveland Township State Police post open. I was a driving force behind getting House Bill 4307, a supplemental budget for the State Police, discharged out of committee and onto the Senate floor where it won unanimous approval. The House quickly agreed and as a result, there has been no loss of law enforcement coverage in the affected areas.

I believe that Police protection is a core function of state government. While I strongly favor trimming state spending wherever possible, the decision to close this post was without adequate study or review and threatened the safety of Groveland and Rose township residents.

Contact Information:

The E-News Update by Senator Nancy Cassis is designed to provide residents and organizations with a periodic update of my activity in Lansing. If you have any questions or do not wish to receive this e-mail, please contact my office.

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